

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF SOLANO COUNTY

December 2020 <https://my.lwv.org/california/solano-county>

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization which neither supports nor opposes candidates or political parties. We encourage informed and active participation in government, work to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influence public policy through education and action.



LWV SOLANO COUNTY CALENDAR

Please watch for updates to these events, as things change from time to time. Meetings and updates are posted on our website [LWVSC Calendar](#).

LWV Solano County Board Meeting, Thursday, December 3rd, 7-8:30 pm. All LWV SC members are welcome! Please email lwvsolano@gmail.com for Zoom information. Agenda will be available on November 30, 2020.

2020 Great Decisions Extension Group, Monday, December 7th at 7 pm

We will discuss the current state of the election transition. Please email lwvsolano@gmail.com for Zoom information. Everyone welcome.

2021 Great Decisions Series

All meetings are held on Mondays at 7 pm. Email lwvsolano@gmail.com for Zoom information.

January 25th, Topic 1: The role of international organizations in a Global Pandemic

February 1st, Topic 2: Global supply chains and national security

February 8th, Topic 3: China and Africa

February 15th, Topic 4: Korean Peninsula

February 22nd, Topic 5: Persian Gulf Security

March 1st, Topic 6: Brexit and the European Union

March 8th, Topic 7: The fight over the melting Arctic

March 15th, Topic 8: The End of Globalization?

Find more information below in the **Great Decisions** update. **Check our website for the latest event news:** <https://my.lwv.org/california/solano-county>

A few words from the LWVSC President:



Hello Leaguers,

We all deserve a round of applause. The first countywide general election undertaken by the League of Women Voters Solano County produced:

1100 Map the Vote easy registration postcards sent to households with unregistered adults all over the county (thanks to Carole, Craig, and many other volunteers);

Voters Edge updating candidate information and local measures countywide (thanks to Gayle Vaughan, Ali Desidero, Anita Haynes, Alice Labay, Kathleen Savage, and Linda De La Ysla.);

8 Candidate Forums for Mayors and City Councilmembers for Vacaville, Fairfield, Suisun City, Benicia, and Vallejo (thanks to Julie, Gayle, Anita, Rami, and many other volunteers). The Forums continued our collaboration with the American Association of University Women and the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; we are also building new partnerships with the National Coalition of 100 Black Women and the Old Path Miracle Cathedral.

2000+ Easy Voter Guides were distributed all over the county particularly focusing on voters with potentially limited informational resources (thanks to Margo, Maryanne, and many other volunteers). It has been a remarkable first year. Thanks to all who have participated in whatever way they were able.

But the break's over and now it's time for us to make notes on what we've learned and build on this work, as well as use the skills we've developed to, for example, have Zoom Forums on the state of water in California and how redistricting will be handled in the county following the 2020 Census.

We wish you all a safe, wonderful holiday season and remember, Democracy is not a spectator sport!

Niles Medders
President
League of Women Voters Solano County

Committee meetings are being held via Zoom at this time. Meetings and updates are posted on our website .

League of Women Voters Solano County: <https://my.lwv.org/california/solano-county>

Facebook @LWVSolano

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YouTube [Subscribe to our LWV Solano County Channel](#)

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Comms Team is growing and we're excited! Thanks to responses to our Volunteer Interest surveys sent out in August, our team has invited several talented and experienced new members to join our team. We're in the process of building out new teams to cover all our areas of responsibility and look forward to new communication initiatives which a larger committee will allow.



Publicity, Posters, and Flyers, Oh My! To support the election and candidate forum efforts of PPE, Voter Service, and Membership committees, the Comms Team created flyers, sent MailChimp eblasts, and multiple press releases and alerts to promote our Candidate Forums. The result was robust reporting by media throughout the county.

Everything Online Among our responsibilities, we manage our LWVSC website and social media accounts and send out "e-blast" alerts via MailChimp. We welcome your feedback and suggestions. Please email: lwsolano@gmail.com.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising Committee Update

LWV Solano County is currently assisting the Crockett Community Foundation in their election of Board Members. On Thursday, November 12th, the Fundraising Committee hosted a virtual Candidates Forum and Crockett community members were able to participate via YouTube. The Forum recording is available on the LWV Solano YouTube Channel at. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DVsv_NxOnow

For several years, the Crockett Community Foundation has hired our league, as a non-partisan entity, to conduct its Board Member election. This election work generates funds for LWV Solano which allows us to support our many important programs. We value the partnership with the Crockett Community Foundation. We are also available to assist other organizations with their election process. For more information please email: lwsolano@gmail.com.



Crockett Foundation Forum on the LWV Solano YouTube Channel

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership Committee is expanding! Thanks to the responses we received from our August Volunteer outreach, we've been able to add 4 new members to our committee: Cassandra James, Sara Jennings, Christina Palmer, and Frances McCullough, all of whom come with a wealth of experience, talent and energy. The committee meets monthly on the third Thursday at 1 pm and we invite you to join us. For more information email lwvsolano@gmail.com.



We open doors for our league and for our other committees. This year we've made significant progress engaging diverse communities throughout Solano County, raising awareness of the League and all we have to offer. In 2021 we will continue our outreach to add new members from throughout our county (our 2020 member roster has grown to 127), and forge new relationships with other organizations with compatible and complementary missions including churches, service organizations, and public agencies. If you know of an organization we should reach out to, please email us at lwvsolano@gmail.com

2020-21 Membership Committee Priorities.

- Develop new and deeper influencer relationships with values-based community organizations with the goal of building strong mutual community engagement in government/elections.
- Build awareness and recognition of LWV as a resource for unbiased information.
- Keep Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at the core of our outreach efforts.
- Conduct outreach to youth to build future League leaders.
- Leverage, support and facilitate activities by other committees.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee is looking to fill some committee chair and Board positions as well as succession planning for our upcoming elections next May. We are looking for league members who would like to be more involved. If you would like to get more involved, please contact us at lwvsolano@gmail.com.



The midnight ride of LWV Solano reminding folks to vote the night before Election Day!

VOTER SERVICES COMMITTEE

VotersEdge.org: Volunteers for Voters Edge succeeded in uploading the campaign profiles of 73% of Solano County candidates for the November 3rd general election on VotersEdge.org. The LWVSC ranked in the upper five percent for highest percentage of local candidates listed among California LWV chapters. With the lack of campaign rallies due to the COVID-19 virus, the Voters Edge website was essential for many candidates to communicate their profile information to voters. A few candidates for the California Assembly, as well as city councils, had their profile information inadvertently omitted in the County Registrar's Voter's Guide. For these candidates, Voters Edge was the only publication of their information for voters. Several candidates contacted the Voters Edge Coordinator after the election to communicate their gratitude for the website, citing it as a primary reason for their success in the election.

Easy Voter Guide: LWVSC distributed 2000 free 16-page booklets which described the pros and cons of the California propositions. The Easy Voter Guides were provided to eight churches, of which two operate food pantries, and ten community organizations, which included one food pantry.



Voter Outreach

During the days prior to the election, Voter Service volunteers sent text messages to 988 young people who had signed up to receive voting reminders. LWVSC volunteers had preregistered youth in 2019 and 2020, aged 16 and older, as part of classroom presentations on voting rights and voter registration in area high schools.



Texting for Votes – June Meijas, Ali Desiderio, and Pete Vaughan

PROGRAM AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

After a busy election season the Program Planning and Events committee is taking the time to do a little internal re-organizing. We are now talking about the next calendar year and how we can provide a good program of events that will meet the needs of our members. We will begin with virtual events and hope that we can move to some in-person events later in 2021.



We are always looking for new volunteers and suggestions. Please feel free to email us at: LWVsolano@gmail.com

GET INVOLVED



Now that the election is over, it's time to get even busier! Important Volunteer activities are available to suit your skills and time – from just an hour or two a month or more.

Find out details on all the options on our website: <https://my.lwv.org/california/solano-county/donate>

Fill out our easy online Volunteer Interest Form at <https://my.lwv.org/california/solano-county/volunteer-interest-form>. We have a lot of election-related opportunities happening now.

Can you spare 2 or 3 hours per month and be our new "Volunteer Reference" volunteer? This member will field Committee Chair requests for volunteers. **The Volunteer Reference**

volunteer is only responsible for getting volunteer contact information to Committee Chairs, and is NOT be responsible for contacting or following up with volunteers. Only job requirement is basic familiarity with Excel; we will train! Please email lwvsolano@gmail.com.

We know that some of you are not able to volunteer at this time, but please know that your membership and support are very important to our League.

Great Decisions Extension Group

Monday December 7th at 7pm. We will discuss the current state of the election transition. Please email lwsolano@gmail.com for Zoom information. Everyone welcome.

January 25th the New Great Decisions Series Begins

The League of Women Voters Solano County again will be co-sponsoring weekly meetings of the Foreign Policy Association's **Great Decisions** with the Benicia Public Library. Although the library reports that it is unlikely that we will be able to have meetings at the library this winter, the library will continue to cosponsor our event and announce our meetings on their website. We plan to meet at 7 pm on Monday evenings beginning January 25, 2021 and continue on Monday evenings for 8 consecutive Mondays. We hope to be able to show the Foreign Policy Association weekly topic video as part of our Zoom meeting and will follow the presentation with discussion.



We have had enough pre-order signups for Great Decisions briefing books to allow us to order a classroom set of 31 books. We still have a few available and can order extras at a discounted price so if you are interested in purchasing a briefing book please email lwsolano@gmail.com to contact Niles Medders. Books will be \$25 each, payable when you pick up your book in January. We expect the books to arrive early to mid-January.

Topics for Great Decisions 2021 are *Global Supply Chains and National Security; Persian Gulf Security Issues; Brexit and the European Union; Struggles Over the Melting Arctic; China's Role in Africa; The Korean Peninsula; Roles of International Organizations in a Global Pandemic; and The End of Globalization*. To read blurbs about each topic go to the Foreign Policy Association website, <https://www.fpa.org/> and click on Great Decisions 2021 Blurbs on the right hand side of the page.

All are welcome!! If you think you might be interested send an email request to lwsolano@gmail.com to be put on the Great Decisions contact list. See the full list of meeting dates in the Calendar section above.

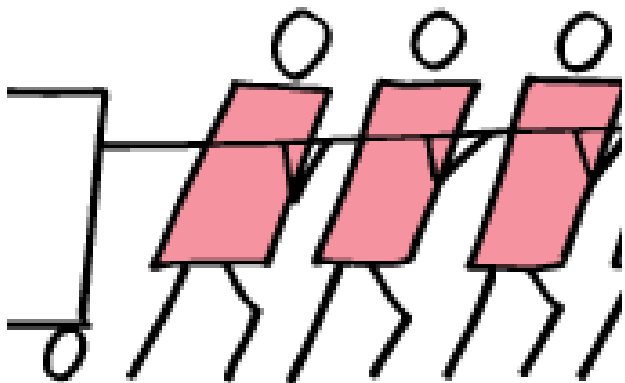


TEST YOUR LEAGUE KNOWLEDGE

In what year was the national League of Women Voters founded?*

- 1945
- 1920
- 1912
- None of the above

* answer on page 8



OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS & COMMITTEES

To contact our Officers, Board, and Committee Coordinators please email: lwvsolano@gmail.com.

Officers

President, Niles Medders
 Vice President, Julie Hartford, and PP&E Co-Chair
 Treasurer, Judy Potter
 Secretary, Denise Crider

Board Directors

Sandy Coury, Communications Chair
 Alice Fried, High School Civics Competition
 Margo McGlone, Membership Chair and Bay Area League Board
 Carole Paterson, Voter Service
 Craig Paterson, PPE Co-Chair
 Marianne Perlmutter, PPE

Deputy Chairs and Area Coordinators

Program Planning & Events (PPE) Co-Chairs

Julie Hartford
 Craig Paterson

Voter Service

Maryanne Perlmutter, Administrator

Voter Service Area Coordinators

Gayle Smith Vaughan: Benicia/Vallejo

Carole Paterson: Fairfield

Barbara King: Fairfield

Becky Cecena: Vacaville

Voter Newsletter

Leslie Lessenger, Sandy Coury, Niles Medders

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS GUIDELINES

Due by the 17th of the month

Email submissions to Sandy Coury, sandycoury@gmail.com

Content must be League Business Only

Include What, Where, When, and Why in first paragraph.

Length should be 200 words or less.

Please use WORD; Calibri 12 pt. is preferred.

Simple formatting only.

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* The national League of Women Voters was founded February 14, 1920.